

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) A portable air-conditioning unit, ~~especially a personal air-conditioning unit, with a small-format housing (2) with comprising a~~ housing section (3) containing a latent heat storage unit (4, 4'), ~~at which housing (2) having an inlet (7, 7')~~ for a gaseous or liquid medium, which is to be passed by the latent heat storage unit (4, 4'), exchanging heat there, ~~and an outlet (10, 10')~~ for discharging the cooled or heated medium, ~~are provided, as well as with conveying means (8, 8')~~ at the housing[[,]] which can be operated by way of an energy supply (9) and convey the medium for an ~~autarc~~ autarkic operation of the air-conditioning unit (1, 1').

2. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the medium is a gas and the conveying means is a fan (8).

3. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the inlet (7) is constructed as at least one aspiration opening for air from the surroundings, which is used as gas.

4. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one outlet nozzle (12), leading to the surroundings, is provided at the outlet (10).

5. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an outlet section (11) of any shape, ~~consisting and~~ comprised of a deformable and optionally skin-friendly material and having several outlet nozzles (12), is provided at the outlet (10).

6. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outlet section (11) is constructed essentially plate-like or half-plate-like and that the several outlet nozzles (12) point in different directions.

7. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning units of ~~claims 2 or 3~~, ~~characterized in that~~ claim 2, wherein connecting means (30) for coupling with a pipeline (33), in which the gas is passed on, are provided at the outlet (10').

8. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 2, characterized in that wherein connecting means (29, 30) for coupling with, in each case, a pipeline (33), carrying the gas, is provided at the inlet (7') and at the outlet (10').

9. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 1, characterized in that wherein a liquid is used as medium, the conveying means being a pump (8'), and in that connecting means (29, 30) for coupling each with a pipeline (33) carrying the liquid[[,]] are provided at the inlet (7') and at the outlet (10').

10. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the housing (2) is thermally insulated at least in the region, in which the latent heat storage unit (4, 4') is provided, preferably, the whole of the housing (2) being thermally insulated.

11. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at a position downstream from the latent heat storage unit (4), an a preferably electrically adjustable flap-like control element (17) is provided, by means of which the degree to which a first medium path (6), which passes the medium past the latent heat storage unit (4), and

a second medium path (18), over which the medium, which is supplied to the housing (2), is not passed past the latent heat storage unit (4), are open, can be varied.

12. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ at least one cooling or heating device (19), which can be operated electrically, is provided in the housing (2) at one position in the vicinity of the latent heat storage unit (4).

13. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 12, ~~characterized in that that he wherein the~~ cooling or heating device (19) can be operated over the integrated energy supply (9), or that means (21) are provided for connecting to an external energy supply for operating the cooling or heating unit (19).

14. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~claims 11 and 12 or 13, characterized in that claim 11, wherein~~ at least one Peltier element (19) for cooling or heating the latent heat storage unit (4) is provided in a wall (20) of the housing separating the first and the second medium paths (6, 18).

15. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~claims 12 or 13, characterized in that claim 12, wherein~~ the heating device (19) is a heating coil.

16. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the claims 1 to 11, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ an external station with a cooling or heating device for cooling or heating the latent heat storage unit~~[[,]]~~ is provided~~[[,]]~~ at or in which station the portable air-conditioning unit can be disposed.

17. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 16, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the station has one or more Peltier elements for cooling or heating the latent heat storage unit or one or more heating coils for heating the latent heat storage unit.

18. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the latent heat storage unit ~~(4)~~ can be removed from the housing ~~(2)~~.

19. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the amount of medium flowing through can be varied.

20. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 19, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ at least one sensor and one electronic evaluating system

(14), over which the conveying means (8, 8') can be controlled, are provided for detecting the amount flowing through or the temperature of the medium.

21. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein a display, indicating the extent to which the integrated energy supply (9) is charged, is provided.

22. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein a display, indicating the extent to which the latent heat storage unit is charged, is provided.

23. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein accumulators, batteries, fuel cells or solar cells (13) are provided as an energy supply (9).

24. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least one cooling or heating compartment (22) for unrelated objects is provided, the temperature of which can be controlled over a further cooling or heating device (23), especially at least one Peltier element, which is assigned to the compartment.

25. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the latent heat storage medium (4, 4') is water or paraffin.

26. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein a liquid medium, used in a closed system, has a freezing or sublimation point below the freezing point or above the sublimation point of the latent heat storage medium (4, 4').

27. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the or each housing opening can be closed off.

28. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 27, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a common operating element is provided, which preferably is lever-like and over which the closing elements of the housing openings and, optionally, the flap-like control element, assigned to the second medium path, can be actuated jointly.

29. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein a drain or collection device is provided for condensate deposited in the housing.

30. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning unit of claim 29, ~~characterized and that~~ wherein the collection device is a section of the housing or an element absorbing the condensate.

31. (Currently amended) An air-conditioning system, comprising an air-conditioning unit (1') of ~~one of the claims 1 to 26, as well as according to claim 1, further comprising~~ an article (34) of clothing, ~~which is to be worn at~~ on the body of a person, ~~with~~ at least one integrated pipeline (33) for carrying the cooling or heating medium to the article of clothing, and connecting means (29, 30) at the inlet and/or at the outlet of the air-conditioning unit for coupling with corresponding connecting means (31, 32) at the inlet and/or at the outlet of the pipeline (33) of the item (34) of clothing ~~being provided at the inlet (7') and/or at the outlet (10') of the air-conditioning unit (1')~~.

32. (Currently amended) The air-conditioning system of claim 31, ~~characterized and that~~ wherein the item of clothing is a complete suit or a part thereof.

33. (Currently amended) A method for cooling a person, ~~for which utilizing an air-conditioning unit of one of the claims 1 to 26 is used, which aspirates according to claim 1, comprising aspirating air from the surroundings, cools it and discharges it over cooling said air in said air-conditioning unit, discharging said cooled air through at least one outlet nozzle, and which is disposed at the disposing said outlet nozzle at a person in such a manner~~^[,] that the air from the surroundings, which ~~discharged from the outlet nozzle~~ is discharged, ~~is~~ and blown underneath the outer clothing onto the underwear or the skin of the person, so that, aside from the cooling effect due to the cooled air from the surroundings, an additional cooling effect is achieved by utilizing the heat of evaporation during the aeration-induced drying of the natural moisture of the underwear or of the skin.